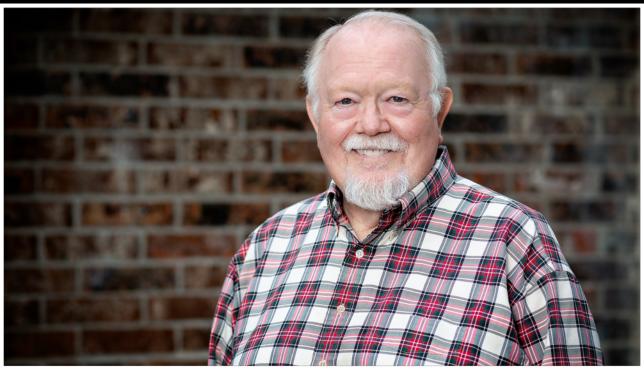
# The Spire

#### FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



First Methodist Heartbeat: Carving Up Character

By Michelle Holland

Have you ever had one of those conversations where you weren't aware of time, and you were just enjoying the moment? I spent an afternoon talking with Henry Joyner and discovered we shared many of the same interests. Chrissie asked me what Henry could be talking about for so long! In this day of social media, technology, and the busyness of life, it was uplifting to sit down and have a conversation just to hear someone's story.

Did you know Henry has been a television reporter and a cameraman, or that he once worked for the National Enquirer? I couldn't help asking if he ever wrote about alien abductions and we had a good laugh about that. Henry never did write alien stories! He has always enjoyed writing and photography and was an English major in college with a minor in journalism. He had a few gigs as a wedding photographer and did some tabletop photography for magazine illustrations. Now I guess you know why we spent so much time talking that afternoon.

If you are familiar with Henry's spectacular wood carvings you know he is very talented and creative, but did you know he also draws, paints, and sculpts? I was captivated with the caricatures and the details I found in them. You can examine them and always find something new you didn't notice before, and the stories he carves into them are so characteristic of life.

Henry's favorite material to work with is wood, and he senses a spiritual connection to the trees and to God the creator when he works with it. There is something about working with wood, a sense of awe and admiration for an organism created by God during the creation of the world that we couldn't do without today. I thought about Henry's characters and how each one is special, and there would never be two that were exactly alike, each of them telling a story with carved details and hand shaped with love and care. I thought God must be doing something similar when he makes each of us, different as can be, with stories as varied as each personality. Henry says he carves away what doesn't look like what he is making and maybe that's what we should be doing too, carving away everything about us that doesn't look like Jesus.

# ASH WEDNESDAY MARCH 6TH I 6:00 P. LONGE CHAPEL

#### A Covenant Prayer in the Wesleyan Tradition

I am no longer my own, but thine.

Put me to what thou wilt, rank me with whom thou wilt.

Put me to doing, put me to suffering.

Let me be employed by thee or laid aside for thee,

Exalted for thee or brought low for thee.

Let me be full, let me be empty.

Let me have all things, let me have nothing.

I freely and heartily yield all things to thy pleasure and disposal.

And now, O Glorious and blessed God,

Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,

Thou art mine, and I am thine. So be it.

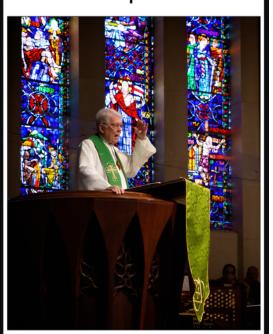
And the covenant which I have made on earth,

Let it be ratified in heaven. Amen.

### MISSED THIS WEEK'S SUNDAY MESSAGE?

**CATCH UP ONLINE:** 

Visit lovebeaumont.com/podcasts or search "First United Methodist Church Beaumont" on iTunes and subscribe to our podcast channel.



#### BECOMERS CIRCLE

MARCH 26 I 6:00 P.M.

The United Methodist Women's Becomers Circle is meeting at Liza Nelson's home this month. Dinner will be covered dishes.





#### Seafarers' Center of Beaumont

#### St. Patrick's Party & Fundraiser

Enjoy a fun Irish evening at O'Hearn's Pub located in the Clifton Steamboat Complex. Tickets include delicious food by Cotton's Culinary, beverages, and live entertainment with The Bogarts. \$40 each or \$75 per couple. Reserved tables for 6 are available for \$350.

www.seafarerscenterofbeaumont.org/upcoming-events 8727 TX-I24, Beaumont, TX 77705



#### Weekly Rhythms

#### **Prayer and Holy Communion Service**

Sundays at 9:15 a.m. - Longe Chapel

**Sunday School** 

Sundays at 9:45 a.m.

**Family Worship Service** 

Sundays at 11:00 a.m.

**Chancel Choir Practice** 

Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m.

**Handbell Practice** 

Wednesdays at 5:45 p.m.

**Lectionary Bible Study** 

Thursdays at 1:00 p.m. - Church Library.

Calder Woods Retirement Home Service
March 5th at 11:00 a.m.

**Collier Park Retirement Home Service** 

March 12th at 10:30 a.m.

**Pelican Bay Retirement Home Service** 

March 19th at 10:30 a.m.

#### Dates to know

#### **Estate Sale**

March 7 - 9 | fumcestatesales.org for info.

**Ash Wednesday: Songs for Sacred Lent** 

March 6th, 6:00 p.m.

**Holy Thursday: Songs for Sacred Supper** 

April 18th

**Good Friday Service** 

April 19th

**Easter Sunday Celebration** 

April 21st

**Texas Annual Conference** 

May 26 - 29

#### A note from our Missions & Outreach Team

#### MARCH COMMUNION RAIL OFFERINGS

MARCH 3 - PROVIDENCE PLACE

Providence Place is a non-profit and for-purpose organization fostering opportunities. They empower adults with disabilities and people on the adoption journey by supporting independence and building bright futures with endless possibilities.

MARCH I7 - UMCOR (UNITED METHODIST COMMITTEE ON RELIEF)
As the humanitarian relief and development arm of The United Methodist Church, UMCOR strengthens and transforms people and communities globally. UMCOR's work can be categorized into three major areas:

- 1) Humanitarian Relief / Disaster Response
- 2) Sustainable Development
- 3) Global Health (in collaboration with Global Ministries).

## REMEMBER THESE FAMILIES IN PRAYER:

Alberto Family, Booker Family,
Flores Family, W.C. Hall,
Medlin Family, Jeanette Kuhlman,
Rebecca Rankin, Sharon Smith,
Linda Thompson,
Woodland Family.

For prayer requests,
email prayer @ fumcbeaumont.org.
Our prayer team would
love to be praying with you.

## serve Together

First Methodist Service Day at Some Other Place March 15th 8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Kairos Kitchen in Rothwell Hall March 23rd 5:00 p.m.











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